

In the claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for rolling a metal strip in a rolling train having at least two rolling stands, and wherein the metal strip has at least two areas of different thicknesses connected via a substantially wedge-shaped transition piece[, being adjusted comprising setting [[the]] a rolling velocity of a rolling stand during rolling of the transition piece as a function of the rolling stand's forward slip, and [with] an addition value ( $\Delta v_L$ ) as a function of the metal strip's temperature, and boundary conditions including load limits of roll drives and further wherein the additional value is calculated using at least one neural network.
2. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for rolling a metal strip in a rolling train having at least two rolling stands, the metal strip having at least two areas of different thicknesses which are connected via a substantially wedge-shaped transition piece, comprising means for setting [[the]] a rolling velocity of a rolling stand during the rolling of the transition piece as a function of the rolling stand's forward slip, and [with] an addition value ( $\Delta v_L$ ) as a function of the metal strip's temperature and boundary conditions including load limits of roll drives and wherein the additional value is calculated using at least one neural network.
3. (New) A method for rolling a metal strip in a rolling train having at least two rolling stands, and wherein the metal strip has at least two areas of different thicknesses connected via a substantially wedge-shaped transition piece being adjusted comprising setting a rolling velocity of a rolling stand during rolling of the transition piece as a function of the rolling stand's forward slip, and an addition value ( $\Delta v_L$ ) as a function of the metal strip's temperature, and further wherein the additional value is calculated using at least one neural network.
4. (New) Apparatus for rolling a metal strip in a rolling train having at least two rolling stands, the metal strip having at least two areas of different thicknesses which are

connected via a substantially wedge-shaped transition piece, comprising means for setting a rolling velocity of a rolling stand during the rolling of the transition piece as a function of the rolling stand's forward slip<sub>1</sub> and an addition value ( $\Delta v_L$ ) as a function of the metal strip's temperature and wherein the additional value is calculated using at least one neural network.